IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 2 as follows:

1.   (Currently amended)   An ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus for delay-controlling ~~the~~ ultrasonic wave beams of a plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements linearly arranged in a ~~horizontal~~ <u>transversal</u> direction to a specimen, characterized by:

means for deriving the distance <u>"y"</u> from each of said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements to ~~said~~ convergence positions <u>by way of</u> ~~with from~~ a hyperbolic function <u>using the following formula:</u>

$$\underline{(y + b)^2 = (ax)^2 + b^2}$$

wherein <u>"a" is</u> the gradient ~~"a"~~ of an asymptote <u>of a hyperbola and</u> $0 < |a| < 1$, ~~with~~ <u>"x" is a variable corresponding to each of</u> the positions in ~~a horizontal~~ <u>said transversal</u> direction of said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements<u>, and "b" is the curvature in the vicinity of the origin in the hyperbola</u> ~~as the variable~~; and

means for generating ~~the~~ driving pulse of each of said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements delayed <u>respectively</u> in accordance ~~to~~ <u>with</u> said derived distances.

2.   (Currently amended) An ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus for delay-controlling ~~the~~ ultrasonic wave beams of a plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements arranged on a convex surface in a ~~horizontal~~ <u>transversal</u> direction to a specimen, characterized by:

means for deriving the distance from each of said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements to ~~said~~ convergence positions <u>by way of</u> ~~from~~ the sum <u>of a distance "y"</u> obtained <u>from</u> a hyperbolic function <u>using the following formula:</u>

$$\underline{(y + b)^2 = (ax)^2 + b^2}$$

wherein <u>"a" is</u> the gradient ~~"a"~~ of an asymptote ~~is~~ <u>of a hyperbola and</u> $0 < |a| < 1$, ~~with~~ <u>"x" is a variable corresponding to each of</u> the positions in ~~a horizontal~~ <u>said transversal</u> direction of said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements<u>, and "b" is the curvature in the vicinity of the origin in the hyperbola</u> ~~as the variable~~ and the distance from each of said ultrasonic

transducer elements ~~and~~ <u>to</u> a reference line to which the ultrasonic transducer element in the center ~~contacts on~~ <u>comes into contact with</u> the convex surface; and

means for generating the driving pulse of each of the said plurality of ultrasonic transducer elements delayed <u>respectively</u> in accordance ~~to~~ <u>with</u> said derived distances.